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Taxable Retail Sales Increase 7 Percent in 2007

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 25, 2008 — Taxable retail sales increased 7 percent to \$118.2 billion in 2007, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today.

Retail trade was up 4.2 percent over 2006 to \$54.5 billion. Retail trade is a subset of all taxable retail sales that tracks sales at retail outlets only and excludes non-retail sectors such as construction.

Construction continued to represent more than 20 percent of all taxable retail sales, followed by motor vehicles and parts at 10.7 percent. Accommodations and food services, including bars and restaurants, comprised 9.2 percent of all taxable sales.

Results for the five largest industries:

	Taxable retail sales	% change
Construction	\$24.2 billion	12.4%
Motor Vehicles and Parts	\$12.7 billion	2.3%
Accommodations and food services	\$10.9 billion	7.8%
General merchandise stores	\$10.0 billion	4.6%
Miscellaneous retail stores	\$6.1 billion	6.5%

Results for the five most populace counties:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
King	\$47.2 billion	8.6%	\$18.3 billion	3.9%
Pierce	\$12.5 billion	3.1%	\$6.1 billion	2.1%
Snohomish	\$11.7 billion	7.3%	\$5.8 billion	5.8%
Spokane	\$7.7 billion	5.6%	\$3.8 billion	4.6%
Clark	\$4.8 billion	-0. 4%	\$2.1 billion	2.2%

Results for cities with the most sales:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
Seattle	\$17.0 billion	9.4%	\$5.5 billion	5.7%
Bellevue	\$6.0 billion	15.9%	\$2.7 billion	4.2%
Tacoma	\$4.7 billion	2.9%	\$2.2 billion	2.0%
Spokane	\$4.0 billion	4.4%	\$1.9 billion	3.7%
Everett	\$2.9 billion	6.4%	\$1.3 billion	2.3%

Results for all counties and selected cities, including breakdowns of sales by industry sector, are available online at <http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/2007/qbrcal07/default.aspx>.

Breakdowns for overall taxable retail sales and retail trade by county and city are available at <http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/Pubs/News/2008/CountyTaxableRetailSales2006vs2007.xls> and <http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/Pubs/News/2008/CityTaxableRetailSales2006vs2007.xls>.

Breakdowns by industry are available at http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/Pubs/News/2008/LOCAL_TRS_STATEWIDE_CAL07.xls.

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